FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 10, 2001 CONTACT: Nikki Crosslin

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NASHVILLE-Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner Michael E. Magill announced today that \$532,000 in federal funds has been awarded to Local Workforce Investment Area 12 (LWIA 12) to help workers dislocated from Dyersburg Fabrics find suitable employment or develop new skills through training and education. LWIA 12 covers Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Lake, Lauderdale, Obion and Tipton counties.

"We are pleased to be able to offer additional federal funds to assist those workers at Dyersburg Fabrics," Magill said. "Losing your job is an extremely difficult situation, and our Career Center's goal is to make it easier for those individuals to transition to a better economic opportunity."

The Northwest Tennessee Career Center in Dyersburg, which contains the Tennessee Departments of Labor and Workforce Development and Human Services, Job Corps, and Dyersburg State Community College's workforce programs, is available to help the Dyersburg Fabric employees in this transition. Services such as job service, career counseling, training, adult education, unemployment insurance, and vocational rehabilitation are available at the Center. Assessment services will be provided to all affected employees, and results should help guide individuals toward occupations for which they are best suited or in which they may have transferable skills.

Barry Ladd, Board Chairman in LWIA 12, said, "We look forward to providing skill training opportunities to the Dyersburg Fabric employees. In today's labor market, it is important to address each individual's need to help him or her get back in the workforce as soon as possible. LWIA 12 is extremely grateful that the State could provide federal funds to assist our community at this difficult time."

Dyersburg Fabric employees interested in assistance should contact the Northwest Tennessee Career Center at (731) 286-8300. It is located at 439 McGaughey Street in Dyersburg.

Career Center services are available to all individuals, including employers and job seekers. Whether you are a first-time employee or returning to the workforce; a new college graduate or you never finished high school; looking for a career change or just been laid off; a corporate manager who can't find enough workers or a small business owner who only needs help finding a few – the Tennessee Career Centers and their affiliated offices located across the state can help. Please call (615) 741-7973 for additional information.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is an equal opportunity employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities

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